8th grade English

Vocab List #6: PSSA Argumentative Terms

1. accuracy - correctness or precision

2. analysis - the act of studying or examining something in detail in order to discover more about it

3. argument - reason or reasons why you support or oppose an idea, or the process of explaining them

4. assertion - declaration, statement, allegation or claim

5. debate - to discuss a subject in a formal way; a serious discussion in which many people take part

6. debatable - not clear, not certain, not fixed; having more than one side

7. editorial - newspaper or magazine article that gives an opinion

8. evaluate - to judge or calculate the quality, importance, amount or value of something

9. fact - something which is known to have happened or to exist, especially something for which proof exists,

or about which there is information

10. generalization - conclusion, drawn from information, used to make broad statement

11. logic - a particular way of thinking, especially one which is reasonable and based on good judgment

12. opinion - a thought or belief about something or someone

13. opposition - strong disagreement

14. persuasion - trying to convince someone to think or act a certain way

15. point of view *or viewpoint* - an opinion or a way of considering something

16. pro/con - pros are the benefits/advantages of something; cons are the drawbacks/disadvantages

17. reading critically - questioning the text; giving opinions or judgments on what is read rather than simply

accepting it as true or valid

18. reasoning - the process of thinking about something in order to make a decision

19. rebuttal - a statement which says that something is not true

20. reliable sources - sources of information that come from widely respected and trusted people or

institutions; trustworthy information

21. rhetoric - the art of speaking and writing effectively

22. statistics - information based on a study of the number of times something happens or is present or other

numerical facts; a fact in the form of a number

23. support - to help to show something to be true

24. thesis - the main idea, opinion, or theory of a piece of writing or speech

25. validity - based on truth or reason; able to be accepted